CLAIMS

1. A method, comprising:

associating a print job with a unique job identifier;

obtaining pre-print information about the print job;

obtaining post-print information about the print job; and

correlating the pre-print information and the post-print information having like unique job identifiers.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the pre-print information is received from an operating system.

3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the post-print information is obtained from a peripheral.

4. A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the peripheral is selected from among a group of peripherals comprising a printer and a facsimile machine.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the obtaining post-print information step comprises use of SNMP Gets.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising storing the unique identifier, the pre-print information and the post-print information.

7. A method as recited in claim 1, additionally comprising sending the unique identifier, the pre-print information and the post-print information to a job table on a peripheral.

8. A method as recited in claim 1, additionally comprising sending the unique identifier, the pre-print information and the post-print information to a management server.

9. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising transferring the pre-print information and the post-print information to a management server upon realization of a threshold.

10. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the threshold is selected from a group of thresholds comprising an elapsed time threshold, a storage level threshold and a print job quantity threshold.

11. A method as recited in claim 9, additionally comprising adjusting a value at which the threshold triggers the transfer of data.

12. A method as recited in claim 1, additionally comprising polling a peripheral to determine if the peripheral has finished with the print job.

13. A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the polling step comprises varying the rate of polling as the peripheral works on the print job.

14. A method as recited in claim 1, additionally comprising requesting the peripheral to send a trap with print information.

15. A computer readable media having computer readable instructions for performing the steps of the method as recited in claim 1.

16. A method of capturing print job information, comprising:

configuring the port monitor with a management server;

associating a print job received by a port monitor with a unique job identifier;

sending the print job to a printer;

obtaining pre-print information about the print job;

obtaining post-print information about the print job; and

correlating the pre-print information and the post-print information having like unique job identifiers.

17. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein configuring comprises configuring a plurality of port monitors to have a same threshold value.

18. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein configuring comprises generating a user interface on the management server that is supported by HTML.

19. A method as recited in claim 16, additionally comprising polling the printer to determine if the printer has finished with the print job.

20. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the polling step comprises varying the rate of polling as the printer works on the print job.

21. A computer readable media having computer readable instructions for performing the steps of the method as recited in claim 16.

22. A method, comprising:

receiving a print job with a port monitor;

wrapping the print job with a unique job identifier to form a wrapped print job;

sending the wrapped print job to a printer;

obtaining pre-print information associated with the print job from an operating system;

polling the printer to determine if the print job is done;

obtaining post-print information from the printer; and

correlating the pre-print and post-print information to produce correlated information.

23. A method as recited in claim 22, wherein polling comprises polling at a varying rate as the printer works on the print job.

24. A method as recited in claim 22, additionally comprising triggering the transfer of correlated information to a management server upon reaching a threshold.

25. A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the threshold is selected from a group of thresholds comprising an elapsed time threshold and a storage available threshold.

26. A method as recited in claim 24, additionally comprising adjusting the threshold that triggers the transfer of data.

27. A port monitor, comprising:

a job information module to assign unique job identifiers to print jobs; and

a job collection module to collect and correlate pre-print and post-print information.

28. The port monitor of claim 27, additionally comprising a data store, in communication with job information collection module, to store the pre-print and post-print information.

29. The port monitor of claim 27, additionally comprising a data transfer module, in communication with the job information collection module, to transfer data from the job information collection module.

30. The port monitor of claim 27, additionally comprising an SNMP module, in communication with the job information collection module.

31. At least one computer-readable media having computer readable instructions thereon, which when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

receive a print job;

wrap the print job with a unique job identifier to create a wrapped print job;

send the wrapped print job to a printer;

obtain pre-print information from an operating system;

obtain post-print information from the printer; and

correlate the pre-print information and the post-print information associated with the unique job identifier.

32. A computer-readable media as recited in claim 32, to additionally cause the computer to poll to determine if the printer has finished with the print job.

33. A computer-readable media as recited in claim 32, to additionally cause the computer to vary a rate of polling as the printer works on the print job.

34. A computer having a processor capable of reading the computer readable media of claim 32 and executing the associated instructions.